

The decision by Sinclair Broadcasting to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear and frightening example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, which means they do not have the right to spew biased, right- or left-wing propaganda. They are obligated by law to serve the public interest. Large companies like Sinclair have the ability to reach an enormous number of people in who can be politically manipulated. This is what happens in dictatorships all over the world. This is the way China and Russia keep the masses quiet - by controlling the information they receive. It's really only a small step from large, independent corporation to government mouthpiece, as we are seeing with Sinclair.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules. We are handing our country's free flow of information over to a small cadre of individuals whose political agenda gets sold to the public as "fair and balanced" information rather than the propaganda it is. Thank you.